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SCAN ME



TRADIES FOR YOUR PARISH

The Parish is putting together a data base of "tradies" that we can call upon for repairs around the Parish. If you are a trade and would like to share your gifts and talents in whatever trade - electrician, plumber, carpenter, builder, etc. - then we are waiting to hear from you!

To put your name and trade forward, please email the parish office at office@stgertrude.org.au.

Thank you for your continued support for your Parish.

UPDATE ON MAINTENANCE WORK

Thank you for your patience as we continue to repair St. Benedict's Shrine.

Shrine Foyer and surrounds: We are moving into the next stage of repairs to the Shrine foyer, the sacristy and the Childrens' Room. As you may be aware Catholic Church Insurances (CCI) has began to cease trading. This has complicated somewhat our insurance claim and has meant a change in our original plans. The Parish has accepted a "payout option", and now can start to engage with contractors to begin repairs. We will give you more information in the future in regards to these works.

Shrine Cooling System: Recently, the Parish engaged an air-conditioning specialist company to assess the Shrine Cooling System. Part of the damage to the roof was a result of chemicals leaking from the cooling system. Lack of maintenance and the age of the cooling system has also meant that part of the cooling system is no longer functional. The recommendation is to decommission the cooling system, which of course will come at some cost. We are awaiting pricing from the air-conditioning company and advice from the Archdiocese. In the immediate future it means that the system cannot be used and what that means for the predicted hot summer ahead we can only imagine.

Parish Office: The majority of items have been removed from the old Parish Office. This building is now no longer in use. The Archdiocese has asked for an engineer's report regarding the condition of the building and reasons as to why the building is cracking/failing. An engineer has been engaged and we are awaiting the report to negotiate with the Archdiocese what direction to take next.

Please continue to pray for a good outcome to our Capital Works.



FCI – Italian Catholic Federation

Bingo Numbers called out in English & Italian

Next Bingo 10:00 am Friday 29th September 2023

Montefano Hall \$15 entry includes

Bingo Games, prizes; Morning Tea/Coffee and light lunch.

Come join us, united as a Parish.



ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH

St Benedict's Shrine

Corner Justin & Neville Street
SMITHFIELD

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm;
9:00 am (Italian); 10:30am; 6:00pm.

Weekday Masses:

9:15am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday;
7:00 pm Wednesday

Weekday Public Holidays: 10:00am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Adoration:

Wednesdays after evening Mass with Novena to St Benedict until 8:30 pm; Saturday from 4:30pm—5:30pm; & Friday after the 9:15am Mass

First Friday of the Month:

9:15 am followed by Devotions
7pm Mass & Adoration followed by Devotions

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Tuesday after Mass & Friday after 9:15am Mass with Exposition.



Parish Priest

Fr Peter James Strohmayer OSPPE

Assitant Priest

Fr Casimir Zielinski OSPPE

St Therese's Church

Corner The Boulevard & Stella Street
FAIRFIELD WEST

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm (Vietnamese);
7:30 am (English); 12 noon (Spanish); 6:00 pm (Syriac)

Weekday Masses:

Mon - Fri 7:00 am; Saturday 8:00 am
Weekday Public Holiday: 8:00 am

First Friday of the Month:

6.30 am Exposition & Confession; 7:00 am Mass

First Saturday of the Month:

7:00 am Rosary 8:00 am Mass

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

Tuesday after Mass

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

24 September 2023



We pray for the sick of this Parish

Fr. Anthony David, OSPPE, Michael Hyzy, Aldo Girardi, Alfred Muscat, Alyssa Ferreri, Ray Wilson, Gino Mifsud, Helen Maric, Adam Westwood, Emile & Mary Kody, Kartia Grace Russell, & Ivy Fernandes.

Bless our sick today so that they may bear their illness in union with Jesus' sufferings and restore them quickly to health.

Recently Deceased

Concetta Italiano, Petar McLoughlin, Ivanka Jermanis, Terry Caruana, Vincenzo Reitano, Michelina Leombruni.

And for those whose Anniversary occur at this time

Innocenzo Panebianco, Venice Bianchi, Jozef Tumanik.

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office:

22 Neville St, Smithfield
Phone: 9604 1199 Fax 9609 6585
Email: office@stgertrude.org.au
Website: www.stgertrude.org.au

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday (closed Wednesday)

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Parish Council: Denise Namroud

Finance Committee: Tan Do

Andrew Maia: Work Health & Safety

Catechists: 9725 4317

Mimi Romeo: catechist@stgertrude.org.au

Sacraments:

Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation

Contact: Jodie Micallef

Mob: 0412-804-465 (*to leave a message*)

sacraments@stgertrude.org.au

Liturgy: 9725 4317 Anna Kleibert

liturgy@stgertrude.org.au

Adult Sacraments (RCIA): Mariola Herbert

Every Sunday at 8:30 am in the

Crying Room (in front of St Benedict's)

Contact: Parish Office

Children's Liturgy: Currently not available at this time

Reconciliation:

Smithfield - Saturday 4:30 — 5:30 pm

Baptisms: Parish Office 9604 1199

Every 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:00 noon in St Benedict's Shrine Church Smithfield

Marriages: Parish Office 9604 1199

By appointment only (6 months required)

Sick Calls: 9604 1199 — Any Time

Safeguarding: psso@stgertrude.org.au (Parish Safeguarding Support Officers and all WWCC renewals)

Parish Youth:

2nd & 4th Sunday of the month following the 6pm Mass.

Contact: Fr. Peter James via Parish Office

Other: FCI (Italian Catholic Federation)

Tony Coiera 0409 908 424

Parish Playgroup: Thursday during school term. 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Our Schools

ST GERTRUDE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL SMITHFIELD

Boys & Girls: K-6: Ph: 9609-4144
Principal: Mrs Linda Katsibras
1-11 Justin, Street, Smithfield NSW 2164
www.stgsmithfield.syd.catholic.edu.au
www.facebook.com/stgertrudessmithfield
www.instagram.com/stgsmithfield/

MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE

WAKELEY

Girls: 7-12: Ph: 9725 4322
Principal: Ms Gilda Pussich
5 Carnarvon St, Wakeley NSW 2176
info@mmcwakeley.catholic.edu.au
mmcwakeley.syd.catholic.edu.au

PATRICIAN BROTHERS' COLLEGE FAIRFIELD

Boys: 7-12: Ph: 9728-4488
Principal: Mr Peter Wade
268 The Horsley Drive, Fairfield NSW 2165
info@pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au
www.pbcfairfield.catholic.edu.au

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER

For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to love and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

Novena to St Benedict

Wednesday after the 7:00 pm Mass with Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Reconciliation is available during this time.

Church Cleaners

W/E: 30th September
St Benedict: Group A: Frances
St. Therese: Group B: Vietnamese

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 am—4:00 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday (closed Wednesday)

Advertising Space Available - Beginning New Financial Year

Quarterly (No Easter Ads): \$330

Half Year (26 Weeks - No Easter Ads): \$550

Annually (No Easter Ads): \$990

•10% discount for parishioners who are actively donating via the St Gertrude's Fund.

Contact Parish Office - 9604 1199
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 am—4:00 pm

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

"A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police."

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

FIRST READING Is 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R) *The Lord is near to all who call him.*

- I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. (R.)
- The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)
- The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. (R.)

SECOND READING Phil 1:20-24,27

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.
Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one

has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO PENROSE PARK FRIDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2023



To celebrate **Fatima Day** the Parish is organising a bus to Penrose Park.

If you would like to join the Parish Pilgrimage on this day, please leave your name with the Piety Stall or contact the Parish Office to put your name on the list.

When: Friday 13th October
Where: St. Benedict's Shrine
Time: Depart 8.30am sharp
Return 4.30pm approx.

Cost: \$20
Bring your own morning tea and lunch.

MORNING DEVOTIONS AFTER MASS

Beginning in October, there will be some slight changes to our devotions following Morning Mass.

It is a custom in the Pauline Order that each Tuesday is dedicated to Angels and Guardian Angels. As such the Chaplet of St. Michael the Archangel will be prayed each Tuesday after Mass.

There will be copies of the Chaplet of St. Michael available next week.

Tuesday: Chaplet of St. Michael the Archangel

Friday: Divine Mercy Chaplet and Litany to the Sacred Heart



YOUTH GROUP THIS SUNDAY

The next Youth Group will be this Sunday in the **St. Augustine Catechesis Centre** following the 6 pm Mass. Trialing a new format, both groups (our High Schoolers and over 18s) are invited to attend.

Please join us for prayer, fun, friendship and food.

Next Week: 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Scripture: Ezek 18:25-28 Phil 2:1-11

Gospel: Mt 21:28-32

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A PRAYER TO ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX



O little St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, who during your short life on earth became a mirror of angelic purity, of love strong as death, and of wholehearted abandonment to God, now that you rejoice in the reward of your virtues, cast a glance of pity on me as I leave all things in your hands. Make my troubles your own - speak a word for me to our Lady Immaculate, whose flower of special love you were - to that Queen of heaven 'who smiled on you at the dawn of life.' Beg her as the Queen of the heart of Jesus to obtain for me by her powerful intercession, the grace I yearn for so ardently at this moment, and that she join with it a blessing that may strengthen me during life. Defend me at the hour of death, and lead me straight on to a happy eternity. Amen



ST. THERESE FEAST DAY SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2023 MORNING TEA AFTER 7.30AM MASS

Following the 7.30am Sunday Mass on 1st October, a morning tea will be served at St. Therese Fairfield Heights to celebrate the Feast Day.

In preparation a Novena to St. Therese will be prayed after morning Mass at St. Therese beginning on Friday 22nd September.



WELCOME NEW SCHOOL EXECUTIVE

Recently, there have been some changes to our executive at St. Gertrude's Primary and Mary MacKillop College Wakeley. On behalf of the Parish we welcome the following members to our teaching staff:

- Mr. Steven Gissane, Assistant Principal of St. Gertrude's Primary Catholic School.** Steven has already commenced his appointment at the Primary School
- Ms. Janine Kenney, Principal of Mary MacKillop College.** Janine will commence her appointment Term 1, 2024.

The Parish would like to thank Mrs. Helen Vujevic for her contribution to the Primary School. Helen has been appointed as the Principal of Sacred Heart, Villawood.

We would also like to thank Ms Gilda Pussich for her leadership of Mary MacKillop College. Gilda begins Term 1, 2024 as Principal at Our Lady the Sacred Heart in Kensington.



CATHOLIC MISSIONS COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER

The annual Catholic Missions Collection in our Parish will take place next weekend the 1st October.

Currently Catholic Missions is supporting 278 global projects, more than 11,000 Catechists and some 118,000 children.

Your donation help support the work of Catholic Missions.

Daylight Saving Time Next Sunday 1st October

A reminder that Daylight Saving Time begins NEXT WEEKEND! Please remember to put your clocks **FORWARD ONE HOUR** before bed on Saturday evening.

SACRAMENTAL NEWS!

RECONCILIATION, CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL & MASS

Please be advised that the Chancery has decided to celebrate one Confirmation Mass this year. As a result, please find important dates below:

Reconciliation and Confirmation Rehearsal:

Tuesday, 10 October at 6.00pm to 7.30pm
in St Benedict's Shrine

Confirmation Mass with Bishop Terry Brady:

Saturday, 14 October at 12.30pm to 2.00pm
in St Benedict's Shrine



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

2024 RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION ENROLMENTS

If you have a child in Year 3 or above next year, who has been Baptised, enrolments for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion will open from Sunday, 5 November 2023. Further information will be available soon.



For all enquiries, please contact the Sacramental Office by emailing sacraments@stgertrude.org.au or text/phone 0412-804-465 to leave a message.

Thank you.
God bless
Jodie

CATECHIST AWARENESS MONTH

Have you considered being a Catechist?

A catechist is any person of faith who is hospitable, a good listener, patient, kind, and caring.

Lk 11:28 – He Replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it,"

THE CHILDREN NEED YOU! THE PARISH NEEDS YOU!

Contact: Mimi Romeo - email: catechist@stgertrude.org.au
Contact No - 9725 4317



CATECHIST MEETING FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER

All Catechists current and new are welcome

When: Friday 6 October
Where: Montefano Hall Smithfield (next door to St Benedict's Church)
Time: 10.15am Morning Tea – 10.30am start Meeting.

Mimi Romeo

PARISH DONATIONS

First Collection (Priests) Account : Smithfield House –
Order of St Paul the First Hermit

BSB 066711 Acct. No. 007392

Second Collection (Parish) Account : Smithfield Catholic Church

BSB: 062784 Acct. No. 100001084

Thank you for your continued support and generosity. God Bless.



REMINDER ~ PLEASE TURN OFF MOBILE PHONES

Please remember to turn off your mobile phones – or switch to silent – when entering the Church.